promulgation and that China desired to have restrictions on its jurisdictional sovereignty removed at the earliest possible moment, Great Britain, France, and the United States replied that the time was not ripe—that China had not sufficiently reestablished order and reorganized its courts and laws to be able to insure protection and justice to foreigners. An American note suggested the gradual abolition of extraterritoriality but not the immediate complete relinquishment which China desired. Earlier notes and declarations by China in 1928 and 1929 and its invocation of Article XIX of the Covenant of the League of Nations proved equally fruitless. In December, 1929, Nanking announced, by unilateral action, the termination of extraterritoriality, to take effect on January 1st, 1930, but by ordering the appropriate branches of the Government to frame regulations to make this operative it postponed the actual assumption of jurisdiction over the foreigners involved. May 4th, 1931, Nanking issued a mandate announcing the completion of these regulations and declaring that they would go into effect on January 1st, 1932. The regulations stipulated that special chambers should be set up in certain courts for the trial of cases in which foreigners were involved and provided for legal counselors for these, of whom some might be foreigners. The Japanese attack on China in the autumn of 1931 and domestic political troubles prevented the Chinese from carrying out their purpose at the announced time.

The powers concerned did not consider that these declarations had terminated their rights. They were, however, yielding, even if slowly. The British and American Governments were in close consultation and were disposed to submit to the inevitable, but

many thorny questions remained to be settled—among them that of the status of the foreign settlements in Shanghai.

The powers were less inclined than formerly to impose their will on China by gunboats and marines. A decade and a half before, such violence against foreigners by Chinese as that at Nanking in March, 1927, would almost undoubtedly have been followed promptly by vigorous reprisals and the imposition of heavy indemnities. As it was, no force was used—except a barrage which was laid down by the gunboats to bring to an end violence against aliens and permit them to escape—and the settlement, reached more than a year later, was surprisingly lenient.